

House Resolution No. 317

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives take pride in recognizing those Show-Me State religious institutions which are dedicated to meeting the spiritual needs of their surrounding communities and neighborhoods; and

Whereas, Seven Holy Founders Parish of Affton, Missouri, enjoys a long, stellar association with the priests and brothers of the Servites of Mary Order whose roots extend to the year 1304; and

Whereas, at the very beginning of the twentieth century in the year 1910, a group from the Servite Order arrived in Missouri to establish a parish in Wilhelmina which is located in the southeastern part of the state; and

Whereas, also active in Malden and Ironton, the Servite Order included the Reverend Father Boniface Efferen who was commissioned to found a parish in Affton, Missouri, during 1927; and

Whereas, named after the Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order, Seven Holy Founders Church was first pastored by the Reverend Father Vincent Tesselaar; and

Whereas, since its illustrious establishment, Seven Holy Founders Parish has been diligently served by dozens of Servite priests and brothers and by Ursuline Sisters; and

Whereas, originally composed of only thirty-five families, Seven Holy Founders Parish today consists of two thousand families, a grade school with nearly five hundred students, a Blessed Virgin Mary Sodality, a Knights of Columbus chapter, a Home-School Association, an Athletic Association, and approximately sixty other active organizations; and

Whereas, Seven Holy Founders Church gains tremendous strength from parishioners who joyfully witnessed the arrival of the first church, first school, and first pastor and who subsequently participated in the move from a pre-Vatican II to a post-Vatican II parish:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, join unanimously to applaud the exemplary history of Seven Holy Founders Church in the South Saint Louis County city of Affton and to convey to all of its religious leaders and laity this legislative body's heartiest congratulations and best wishes as they celebrate the Seventy-fifth Anniversary of the founding of their beloved church; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution in honor of the Seventy-fifth Anniversary of the establishment of Seven Holy Founders Parish in Affton, Missouri.

Offered by _____
Representative Mike Vogt
District No. 66

I, Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, First Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 317, adopted February 11, 2003.

Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker